

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: T. Ueda, et al. : Art Unit: To Be Assigned
Serial No.: To Be Assigned : Examiner: To Be Assigned
Filed: Herewith :
For: FUEL CELL GENERATION SYSTEM :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE TITLE:

Please delete the title in its entirety and substitute therefore -- FUEL CELL GENERATION SYSTEM AND METHOD --.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 7:

The present invention relates to a fuel cell generation system and method in which a fuel cell for generating electric power by reacting hydrogen with oxygen is installed within a package.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 18:

An object of the present invention, in consideration of such problems described above, is to provide a fuel cell generation system and method which secures its safety with a possibility of an explosion or abnormal combustion eliminated and reduces electric power required for the ventilation to maintain its high efficiency.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 24:

One aspect of the present invention is a fuel cell generation system comprising:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 14:

Another aspect of the present invention is the fuel cell generation system,

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 2:

Still another aspect of the present invention is the fuel cell generation system, wherein a predetermined part of a frame member of said package constituting an outer wall of said first compartment is provided with an inlet for said first compartment and an outlet for said first compartment, and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 10:

Yet still another aspect of the present invention is the fuel cell generation system, wherein said reformer and/or said fuel cell body are placed between said outlet for said first compartment and said inlet for said first compartment.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 15:

Still yet another aspect of the present invention is the fuel cell generation system, wherein said reformer is provided with a burner, and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 23:

A further aspect of the present invention is the fuel cell generation system, wherein a flammable gas detector for detecting flammable gas is provided in said vicinity of said ventilation fan.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 10:

Embodiments of a fuel cell generation system and method according to the present invention will be described below with reference to FIG. 1.

10085547-023702

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 9:

Operation and the method of the above described fuel cell generation system will be described below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 3 with the following amended claim:

- 1 3. The fuel cell generation system according to claim 1, wherein a
2 predetermined part of a frame member of said package constituting an outer wall of said
3 first compartment is provided with an inlet for said first compartment and an outlet for said
4 first compartment, and
5 said outlet for said first compartment is provided with a ventilation fan.

Please add the following new claim:

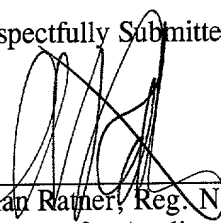
- 1 7. The fuel cell generation system according to claim 2, wherein a
2 predetermined part of a frame member of said package constituting an outer wall of said
3 first compartment is provided with an inlet for said first compartment and an outlet for said
4 first compartment, and
5 said outlet for said first compartment is provided with a ventilation fan.

10085567-022702

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the Abstract in its entirety and substitute the attached Abstract.

Respectfully Submitted,



Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717
Attorney for Applicants

AR/fp

Enclosures: Version With Markings To Show Changes Made
Abstract

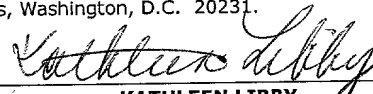
Dated: February 27, 2002

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

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Date of Deposit: February 27, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 3 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



KATHLEEN LIBBY

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE TITLE:FUEL CELL GENERATION SYSTEM AND METHODIN THE SPECIFICATION:

Specification at page 1, line 7:

The present invention relates to a fuel cell generation system and method in which a fuel cell for generating electric power by reacting hydrogen with oxygen is installed within a package.

Specification at page 4, line 18:

An object of the present invention, in consideration of such problems described above, is to provide a fuel cell generation system and method which secures its safety with a possibility of an explosion or abnormal combustion eliminated and reduces electric power required for the ventilation to maintain its high efficiency.

Specification at page 4, line 24:

~~The 1st invention~~ One aspect of the present invention is a fuel cell generation system comprising:

Specification at page 5, line 14:

~~The 2nd invention~~ Another aspect of the present invention is the fuel cell generation system ~~according to 1st invention,~~

Specification at page 6, line 2:

~~The 3rd invention~~ Still another aspect of the present invention is the fuel cell generation system ~~according to 1st or 2nd inventions,~~ wherein a predetermined part of a frame member of said package constituting an outer wall of said first compartment is provided with an inlet for said first compartment and an outlet for said first compartment, and

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Specification at page 6, line 10:

~~The 4th invention~~ Yet still another aspect of the present invention is the fuel cell generation system according to 3rd invention, wherein said reformer and/or said fuel cell body are placed between said outlet for said first compartment and said inlet for said first compartment.

Specification at page 6, line 15:

~~The 5th invention~~ Still yet another aspect of the present invention is the fuel cell generation system according to 3rd invention, wherein said reformer is provided with a burner, and

Specification at page 6, line 23:

~~The 6th invention~~ A further aspect of the present invention is the fuel cell generation system according to 3rd invention, wherein a flammable gas detector for detecting flammable gas is provided in said vicinity of said ventilation fan.

Specification at page 8, line 10:

Embodiments of a fuel cell generation system and method according to the present invention will be described below with reference to FIG. 1.

Specification at page 10, line 9:

Operations and the method of the above described fuel cell generation system will be described below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 3 with the following amended claim:

202507-0955001

1 3. The fuel cell generation system according to claim 1-or-2, wherein a
2 predetermined part of a frame member of said package constituting an outer wall of
3 said first compartment is provided with an inlet for said first compartment and an outlet
4 for said first compartment, and

5 said outlet for said first compartment is provided with a ventilation fan.

Claim 7 has been newly added.

IN THE ABSTRACT

1005567-022702
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~~In accordance with a~~ A fuel cell generation system of the present invention, in
which an interior of a package 2-is partitioned into a gas path compartment 3-and a non
gas compartment 4-with a partition wall-1, a component through which flammable gas
flows is placed within the gas path compartment-3, a part of the frame member of the
package-2 constituting the gas path compartment 3-is provided with gas path
compartment inlets-12a-and-12b, a gas path compartment outlet 13-and a ventilation fan
14, a component through which the flammable gas does not flows is placed within the
non gas compartment-4, and a part of the frame member of the package-2 of the non
gas compartment 4-is provided with a non gas compartment inlet-20, allowing a blower
inlet 21-to open into an interior of the non gas compartment-4 and allowing an air outlet
22-to open into an exterior of the package-2.

Abstract

A fuel cell generation system, in which an interior of a package is partitioned into a gas path compartment and a non gas compartment with a partition wall, a component through which flammable gas flows is placed within the gas path compartment, a part of the frame member of the package constituting the gas path compartment is provided with gas path compartment inlets, a gas path compartment outlet and a ventilation fan, a component through which the flammable gas does not flows is placed within the non gas compartment, and a part of the frame member of the package of the non gas compartment is provided with a non gas compartment inlet, allowing a blower inlet to open into an interior of the non gas compartment and allowing an air outlet to open into an exterior of the package.

1005567-022702